



□ NEW DIRECTION FOR VETERANS & TROOPS

Congress has made historic gains for American Veterans and Military Families

If you have questions or [would](#) like more information about any of legislation below feel free to contact me

EXPAND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

New GI Bill for the 21st Century takes effect August 1 to restore promise of a full, four-year college education

Give businesses a \$2,400 tax credit for hiring unemployed veterans

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Provide nearly 2 million disabled veterans a \$250 Economic Recovery payment

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Help military family homeowners harmed by the housing crisis

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Expand relief ,

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Create a new Veterans Corps to provide services to veterans and military families, as well create

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STRENGTHEN HEALTH CARE

Increase funding for veterans' health care and other services by \$17.7 billion (medical care 40%) through FY12. Register (medical care 40%) through FY12.

Strengthened quality health care for 5.8 million patients -- adding more than 8,000 new doctors and 10,000 new nurses

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Veterans' budget this year hailed as "cause for celebration" by American Legion, provides veterans with more than \$100 billion in new funding for health care and other services.

Expands mental health screening and treatment

Ends Bush's ban on enrolling modest-income veterans for VA health care

Allows Congress to provide VA medical investments one year in advance to ensure sufficient, timely funding

Strongly supported by major veterans' organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Pa

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Passed the House

Clean up the scandal of inadequate support for our wounded soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medi

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Improve outpatient medical care, restore integrity and efficiency to disability evaluations, cut rec

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Smooth the transition from the Armed Forces to VA system— implementing a single, accurate pa

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Rebuild and renovate VA and military hospitals

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Strengthen mental health services critical to the estimated 620,000 returning troops suffering fro

Expand VA mental health care services, invest one-third more than in FY 2006, and provide three

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Require comprehensive DOD policy to address TBI and PTSD, establish a DOD Center of Excellence

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Invest in DOD research for TBI and PTSD, along with counseling, suicide prevention, tele-health

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Establish comprehensive suicide prevention services and a 24-hour toll-free suicide hotline, he

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Prevent TRICARE and veterans health care fee increases proposed by President Bush.

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IMPROVE BENEFITS FOR TROOPS AND MILITARY FAMILIES

Give troops a pay raise of 3.5 percent in 2008 and 3.9 percent in 2009 -- larger than Bush budget

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Retroactively provide more than 170,000 service members and veterans with \$500 for every month

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Passed the House

Address the 396,000 veterans' claim backlog and the 177 day average wait for veterans to access

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Build new transition centers for wounded warriors, more military child care centers, and better b

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Provide Family Medical Leave for families of soldiers wounded in combat

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Reduce Military Families Tax on surviving spouses .

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Passed the House

REBUILD THE AMERICAN MILITARY

Provide troops in Iraq and Afghanistan with better equipment, including Mine Resistant Ambush

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Passed the House

Create Strategic Reserve Readiness Fund to rapidly address military equipment shortfalls

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Ensure more equipment, training, and body armor for troops

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Strengthen National Guard preparedness for disaster response here at home, including providing

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